

**Remarks**

At the time of filing the present response Applicants have contemporaneously submitted an Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO 1449 (modified), and applicants respectfully request Examiner's consideration of these submissions. It is believed that the subject matter claimed in the instant application is patentably distinct from that of each of the recited co-pending applications. Moreover, the subject matter claimed in the instant application and that of each of the recited co-pending applications were, at the time the inventions were made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

Claims 23-27 are pending in the application. Claim 27 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. Claim 27 has been cancelled by this amendment, without prejudice to the subject matter therein, reserving the right to prosecute the subject matter of Claim 27 in a divisional or continuing application. In light of the present amendment cancelling Claim 27 this rejection is moot.

In the Office Action the Examiner concludes Claims 23-26 are currently allowable, thus all remaining claims are in a condition and form for allowance. An early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested. Please charge any additional fees which may be required by this or any other related paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 05-0840.

Should the Examiner wish to discuss any matter in an effort to advance this application toward allowance the Examiner is urged to telephone the undersigned at the indicated number.

Respectfully submitted,  
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November 25, 2008